

2013

Talk dirty to me: Why books about sex and relationships belong in libraries

Stacy Creel

University of Southern Mississippi, Stacy.Creel@usm.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <http://aquila.usm.edu/slisconnecting>



Part of the [Library and Information Science Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Creel, Stacy (2013) "Talk dirty to me: Why books about sex and relationships belong in libraries," *SLIS Connecting*: Vol. 2: Iss. 1, Article 5.

DOI: 10.18785/slis.0201.03

Available at: <http://aquila.usm.edu/slisconnecting/vol2/iss1/5>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by The Aquila Digital Community. It has been accepted for inclusion in SLIS Connecting by an authorized administrator of The Aquila Digital Community. For more information, please contact Joshua.Cromwell@usm.edu.

Talk dirty to me: Why books about sex and relationships belong in libraries.

By Stacy Creel

The State of Mississippi or The Facts

“Sexual relations at one level or another are in the minds, hearts, and bodies of teens” (Chance, 2008, p. 61). A quarter of Mississippi’s population is under the age of 18. There are almost 250,000 state residents who are 10 to 19 years of age (National Center for Health Statistics, 2011). The United States is experiencing its lowest national birth rate for teens since the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) started keeping records in 1940. In 2010, the national birth rate was 31.3 per 1000 females ages 15 to 19. Even though Mississippi’s birth rate has dropped 21% in the last 3 years, it still has the highest birth rate among teens with a birth rate of 55 per 1000 (Associated Press, 2012). The counties in the state with the highest teenage pregnancy rates per 1,000 among 15-19 year olds are Tunica (125.7), Quitman (116.8), and Yazoo County (58.1) (The Mississippi State Department of Health—MSDH, 2010).

Almost 58% of Mississippi’s high school students have had sex, and almost 19% of them used drugs or alcohol prior to their last sexual experience (CDC, 2012). Over 11% of Mississippi’s youth have sex for the first time before age 13, and Mississippi’s high school freshman are more sexually active than the national average—49% versus 32.9%. The state of Mississippi ranks among the highest in the nation for chlamydia and gonorrhea infections, and teens and young adults between the ages of 15-29 years remain the leaders in new cases. From 2001-2010, HIV cases among 15-19 year olds have nearly *tripled* (MSDH, 2010). Teenagers make up almost 40% of those diagnosed with sexually transmitted diseases in Mississippi.

In February 2011, House Bill 999 was adopted. The bill required local school boards to adopt a sex education policy by June 30, 2012. School boards must implement either an abstinence-only or an abstinence-plus curriculum. Before this bill, there was no state law requiring Mississippi to teach sex education in public schools; however, schools that did choose to teach sex education before this bill were required to teach abstinence only until marriage curriculum with abstinence being the best

way to prevent unplanned pregnancies and disease (MSDH, 2010).

While reports are mixed about the impact on whether teens benefit more from abstinence only or comprehensive sex education, one study from the University of Washington in Seattle found that “teenagers who received some type of comprehensive sex education were 60 percent less likely to get pregnant or get someone else pregnant” (Washington Post, 2008). A multi-year federally funded research project investigated the impact of abstinence only programs on sexual abstinence, pregnancy risks, and sexually transmitted diseases. This study found that teens in abstinence only programs were no more likely to abstain than teens not in a program and did not wait until they were older than other teens to become sexually active (Trenholm et al., 2007).

“Considering the high rates of teenage pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases that remain in Mississippi, evidence suggests that abstinence only until marriage programs are ineffective and that a more comprehensive approach to sex education provides young people with medically sound information to make informed decisions related to sex” (MSDH, 2010, p.9).



Books in the Library

Realistic fiction books for teens cover a variety of topics and issues ranging from the innocuous topics like friendship, or dealing with school pressure, or summer adventures to topics considered to be edgy, or even taboo by some. These more edgy books may cover topics ranging from first sexual experiences, to bullying, to sexual identity, to parental divorce or

neglect, and much more. Many of the topics covered in teen realistic fiction make adults uncomfortable. “These novels are disturbing, sometimes shocking, but they reflect the lives of today’s teens – not the lives of every teen but of enough teens for the stories to be authentic” (Chance, 2008, p. 62). Issues like sexuality and sexual attraction are especially important to younger teens as their bodies and hormones are changing. These are also topics that they may not feel comfortable discussing with adults. “Exploring these issues through fiction is one way for young adolescents to ask questions and seek answers for a very important topic in their lives” (Anderson, 2007, p. 77).

Teen collections should contain materials covering a variety of interests, lifestyles, and beliefs. By covering the gamut of a topic, the library is better able to supply books for their entire population—while realizing that legitimately some books are perfectly acceptable to one person but not another. Having a broad collection insures a book choice for everyone. Collections should contain books that cover comprehensive sex education in non-fiction, including books that cover abstinence, and fiction books that cover teens making a variety of choices for a variety of reasons. The collection must be balanced (Nilsen & Donelson, 2008, p. 303). Since there are such differing opinions about what teens should know and when especially when it comes to the non-fiction topic of sex education, including a variety of books for a range of readers is essential (Anderson, 2007). But having a balanced collection means having books that may make some adults cringe and can lead to challenges and censorship of the library collection.

So how do libraries defend having books in their collections that depict teens having sex, getting pregnant, discovering their sexuality or sexual preference? The first step is to depend on your collection development policy. This policy should be current and inclusive. It should describe the service area and community and include all of the community. The policy should contain statements about the community’s right to read, freedom to read, anti-censorship, the Library Bill of Rights, and should have specific statements about youth and their rights and freedom. “Collection development

policy statements protect the library against external pressures” and helps ensure that challenged materials are “fairly reviewed and retained” (Johnson, 2009, p. 75). The collection development policy should also make it clear that the library protects its employees who make the collection development decisions.

Along with the collection development policy, procedures for challenged materials should be established including a committee that reviews complaints and materials receiving complaints. Some examples of collection development policies can be found at AcqWeb’s site, a place of interest for librarians on acquisitions and collection development: http://www.acqweb.org/cdv_policy. Examples of possible wording to consider including are:

- The ____ library recognizes that some materials are controversial and that any given item may offend some patrons. Selection of materials is not made on the basis of anticipated approval or disapproval.
- Responsibility for the reading of youth is the responsibility of their parents or guardians.
- No employee shall be disciplined or dismissed for selecting library materials in good faith and in accordance with the written policy.

Second, depend on the American Library Association’s resources. Use their expert resources like “Strategies and Tips for Dealing with Challenges to Library Materials” and the “Intellectual Freedom Manual.” Additionally, librarians should especially be versed on the following from ALA’s Policy Manual on Services and Responsibilities of Libraries:

52.5.2 Sex Education Materials in Libraries: ALA affirms the right of youth to comprehensive, sex-related education, materials, programs, and referral services of the highest quality; affirms the active role of librarians in providing such; and urges librarians and library educators to reexamine existing policies and practices and assume a leadership role in seeing that information is available for children and adolescents, parents, and youth-serving professionals.

The Policy Manual’s section on Intellectual Freedom also contains the following:

53.1.4 Free Access to Libraries for Minors: Lack of access to information can be harmful to minors. Librarians and library governing bodies have a public and professional obligation to ensure that all members of the community they serve have free, equal, and equitable access to the entire range of library resources regardless of content, approach, format, or amount of detail. This principle of library service applies equally to all users, minors as well as adults. Librarians and library governing bodies must uphold this principle in order to provide adequate and effective service to minors. Adopted 1972, amended 1981, 1992, 2004, and 2008. (See "Policy Reference File": Free Access to Libraries for Minors: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights, revised, 2007-2008 ALA CD#19.7. - PDF, 3 pgs)

Third, the librarian can find and use professional reviews and public opinion to support the inclusion of materials that some might find questionable. The fourth thing that can be done is to use the statistics about "the state of the state" of residence; for those of us in Mississippi a handy resource, "Sexually Transmitted Diseases: 2011 Fact Sheet Mississippi, produced by the MSDH and found in Appendix A.

Conclusion:

It may be overwhelming to think about adding potentially controversial books to the library collection. Perhaps Appendix B can help. It is a list of just over 100 titles on sex, sexuality, love, dating, relationships, and more that can help get the collection started. Most of the titles are found on booklists and/or have received positive professional reviews. The handful of books not on lists or reviewed were added because of popular reviews and opinions. Hopefully, this article will give you the standing needed to "talk dirty..."



Stacy Creel received her Ph.D. from the University of North Texas and has over 10 years of public library experience. She has been teaching at Southern Miss since 2010.

References:

- Anderson, S. (2007). *Serving young teens and tweens*. Westport, CT: Libraries Unlimited
- Associated Press (April 10, 2012). *US teen births: Mississippi has highest rate, New Hampshire lowest*. Fox News. Retrieved from <http://www.foxnews.com/health/2012/04/10/us-teen-births-mississippi-has-highest-rate-new-hampshire-lowest/>
- Center for Disease Control. (2012). *Youth Risk Behavior Survey Fact Sheets*. Retrieved from <http://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/yrbs/factsheets/index.htm#national>
- Chance, R. (2008). *Young adult literature in action: A librarian's guide*. Westport, CT: Libraries Unlimited.
- Johnson, P. (2009). *Fundamentals of collection development and management*. Chicago: American Library Association.
- Mississippi State Department of Health. (2010). 2010 STD/HIV Epidemiologic Profile. Retrieved from http://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/resources/3591.pdf
- National Center for Health Statistics (2011). *Estimates of the April 1, 2010 resident population of the United States, by county, single-year of age (0, 1, 2, ..., 85 years and over), bridged race, Hispanic origin, and sex* [Data file]. Retrieved from http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/bridged_race.htm
- Nilsen, A. & Donelson, K. (2008). *Literature for today's young adult*. Boston: Pearson.
- Trenholm, C. (2007). *Impacts of Four Title V, Section 510 Abstinence Education Programs: Final Report*. Retrieved from <http://www.mathematica-mpr.com/publications/PDFs/impactabstinence.pdf>
- Washington Post. (March 24, 2008). Sex ed can help prevent teen pregnancy. Retrieved from <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/03/24/AR2008032401515.html>



**April is National STD
Awareness Month**

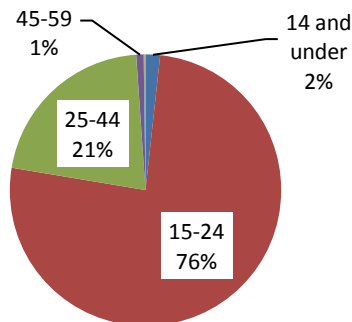
For more information
please visit:
www.cdc.gov
www.healthymys.com/std

Sexually Transmitted Diseases

2011 FACT SHEET

Mississippi

Chlamydia by Age Group, 2011



* In 2010, MS ranked #2 nationally in chlamydia case rates.

In 2011, **Mississippi** reported 21,214 cases of chlamydia.

Among chlamydia cases reported in **Mississippi**:

74% were females, and

67% were African Americans.

Although 15-24 year olds make up 15% of Mississippi's population, they represent 76% of chlamydia cases.

* In 2010, MS ranked #1 nationally in gonorrhea case rates.

In 2011, **Mississippi** reported 5,816 cases of gonorrhea.

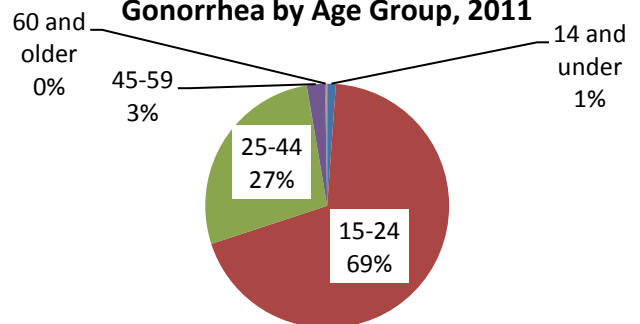
Among gonorrhea cases reported in **Mississippi**:

58% were females, and

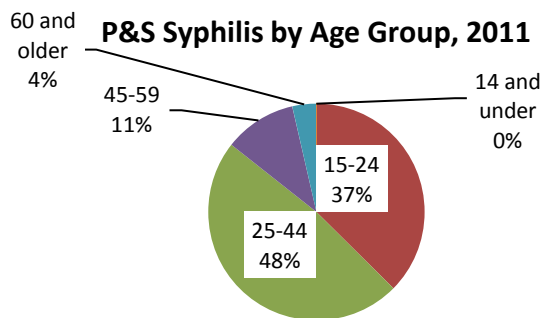
75% were African Americans.

Although 15-24 year olds make up 15% of Mississippi's population, they represent 69% of gonorrhea cases.

Gonorrhea by Age Group, 2011



P&S Syphilis by Age Group, 2011



* In 2010, MS ranked #3 nationally in Primary & Secondary (P&S) syphilis case rates.

In 2011, **Mississippi** reported 195 cases of P&S syphilis.

Among Primary and Secondary syphilis reported in **Mississippi**:

76% were males,

83% were African Americans, and

48% were between the ages of 25-44.

**Of the 46 states with confidential name based reporting, Mississippi had the 7th highest rate for HIV infection in 2010.

The national rate for HIV infection was 16.1 compared to MS, at 19.1 per 100,000 population in 2010.

In 2011, **Mississippi** reported 573 cases of HIV disease.

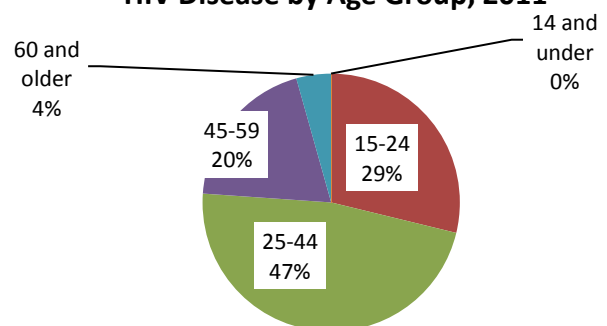
Among HIV disease reported in **Mississippi**:

75% were males,

76% were African Americans, and

47% were between the ages of 25-44.

HIV Disease by Age Group, 2011



* Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Sexually Transmitted Disease Surveillance 2010*. Atlanta: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; 2011.

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *HIV Surveillance Report*, 2010; vol.22.

<http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/surveillance/resources/reports/2010reports/>. Published March 2012. Accessed April 24, 2012.

Appendix B

Book Info	List	Review
Acito, Marc. How I Paid for College: A Novel of Sex, Theft, Friendship, and Musical Theater. Broadway Books, 2005.	PPBK2006	SLJ, 50(9), 2004
Adams, Lenora. Baby Girl. Simon and Schuster/ Simon Pulse, 2007.	QP2008	BL,103(13), 2007
Barnes, Derrick. The Making of Dr. Truelove . Simon Pulse, 2006.	PPBK2008	SLJ, 53(4), 2007
Barnholdt, Lauren. Sometimes it Happens. Simon & Schuster/Simon Pulse, 2011.	QP2012	SLJ, 57(8) 2011
Beam, Cris. I am J. Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, 2011.	QP2012	SLJ, 52(2) 2011
Bechard, Margaret. Hanging on to Max. Simon Pulse Publishing, 2003.	BFYA2003	SLJ, 51(3), 2005
Behrens, Andy. All the Way. Puffin, 2007.	PPBK2008	SLJ, 52(5), 2006
Bend, Don't Shatter : Poets on the Beginning of Desire. Ed. by T. Cole Rachel and Rita Costello. Soft Skull Press, 2004.	PPBK2006	SLJ ,51(1), 2005
Blume, Judy. Forever . Simon Pulse, 2007.	PPBK2008	Not Found
Booth, Coe. Bronxwood. Scholastic/Push, 2011.	QP2012	SLJ, 57(10) 2011
Booth, Coe. Kendra. Scholastic, 2008.	QP2009	SLJ, 54(10), 2008
Boyer, David. Kings and Queens: Queers at the Prom. Soft Skull Press, 2004.	PPBK2006	LJ,129(16), 2004
Boylan, Jennifer Finney. She's Not There: A Life in Two Genders. Broadway, 2004.	PPBK2006	Not Found
Brian, Kate. The Virginity Club . Simon Pulse, 2005.	PPBK2008	Not Found
Brown, Jennifer. Bitter End. Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, 2011.	BFYA2012	SLJ, 57(4), 2011
Burd, Nick. The Vast Fields of Ordinary. Speak Publishing 2011.	Stonewall 2010	SLJ, 55(6), 2009
Burgess, Melvin. Doing It . henry Holt & Company, 2006.	PPBK2008	SLJ ,50(6), 2004
Byrd, A.J. Losing Romeo (BFF Novel). Kimani Press, 2010.	QP2011	Not Found
Cabot, Meg. Ready or Not . HarperTeen, 2007.	PPBK2008	SLJ,55(2), 2009
Cart, Michael. Love and Sex, Ten Stories of Truth. Simon Pulse Publishing, 2003.	QP2002	SLJ, 47(6), 2001
Chambers, Aiden. Dance on my Grave. Amulet Books, 1982.	BBYA	SLJ, 30(1), 1983
Cohn, Rachel. Gingerbread. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2003.	QP2003	SLJ, 51(12), 2005
Conley, Erin. Kiss: a Girl's Guide to Puckering Up. Zest/Orange Avenue Publishing, 2009.	QP2011	Not Found
Corinna, Heather. S.E.X.: The All-you-need-to-know Progressive Sexuality Guide to Get You through High School and College. Da Capo Press, 2007.	Not Found	Not Found
Daniels, Babygirl. Glitter (series #4).Urban Books, 2009.	QP2010	Not Found
Davidson, Dana. Played . Jump at the Sun, 2007.	PPBK2008	SLJ, 52(6), 2006
De Oliveira, Eddie, Lucky. Scholastic, 2004.	PPBK2006	Not Found
Deal With It: A Whole New Approach to Your Body, Brain and Life as a gurl. Pocket, 1999.	QP2001	Not Found
Dessen, Sarah. Someone Like You. Puffin Books. 2004.	BBYA1999	SLJ, 44(5), 2004
Divine, L. Drama High # 6: Courtin' Jayd. Dafina/Kensington, 2008.	QP2010	Not Found

Downham, Jenny. You Against Me. Random House Children's Books/David Fickling Books, 2011.	BFYA2012	SLJ, 57(11), 2011
Efaw , Amy. After. Viking Juvenile, 2009.	QP2010	SLJ, 55(9), 2009
Elkeles, Simone. Return to Paradise. Llewellyn/Flux, 2010.	QP2011	SLJ, 56(11), 2010
Elkeles, Simone. Rules of Attraction: A Perfect Chemistry Novel. Bloomsbury/Walker, 2010.	QP2011	SLJ, 56(5), 2010
Freyman-Weyr, Garret. My Heartbeat. Puffin, 2003.	PPBK2006	SLJ, 49(10), 2003
Fricke, Aaron. Reflections of a Rock Lobster: A story about Growing up Gay. Alyson Books, 2000.	PPBK1997	SLJ, 28(2), 1981
From the Notebooks of Melanin Sun. Scholastic, 2003.	PPBK2006	SLJ, 71(4), 1995
Garden, Nancy. Annie on my Mind. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2007.	ALABestBk1983	SLJ, 55(6), 2009
Giles, Gail. Dark Song. Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, 2010.	QP2011	SLJ, 56(10), 2010
Grant,Cynthia. White Horse. Simon Pulse, 2000.	QP1999	SLJ, 44(12), 1998
Greenman, Catherine. Hooked. Random House/Delacorte, 2011.	QP2012	SLJ, 57(10) 2011
Ha, Thu-Huong. Hail Caesar. Push Publishing, 2007.	PPBK2008	SLJ, 53(5), 2007
Hartinger, Brent. The Order of the Poison Oak. Harper Teen, 2006.	PPBK2008	SLJ, 51(4), 2005
Hasler, Nikol. Sex: A Book for Teens: An Uncensored Guide to Your Body, Sex and Safety. Zest/Orange Avenue Publishing, 2010.	QP2011	SLJ, 57(2), 2011
Hautman, Pete. The Big Crunch. Scholastic Incorporated/Scholastic Press, 2011.	BFYA2012	SLJ, 57(2), 2011
Hear Me Out: True Stories of Teens Educating and Confronting Homophobia. Second Story Press, 2004.	PPBK2006	SLJ, 51(5), 2005
High, Linda Oatman. Planet Pregnancy. Boyds Mills Press, 2008.	QP2009	SLJ, 54(12), 2008
Holmes, Melisa. Hang-ups, Hook-ups, and Holding Out: Stuff You Need to Know about Your Body, Sex, and Dating, HCI, 2007.	Not Found	Not Found
Hopkins, Ellen. Burned. McElderry, 2007.	PPBK2012	SLJ, 52(6), 2006
Horniman, Joanne. Mahalia. Laurel Leaf, 2004.	Not Found	SLJ, 49(4), 2003
Howe, James. The Misfits. Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2003.	PPBK2005	SLJ, 49(7), 2003
Howe, James. Totally Joe. Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2007.	ALANotable2006	SLJ, 51(11), 2005
Hrdlitschka, Shelley. Dancing Naked. Orca Book Publishers, 2002.	QP2003	SLJ, 48(3), 2002
Huegel, Kelly. GLBTQ*: The Survival Guide for Queer and Questioning Teens *(Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning). Free Spirit, 2004.	PPBK2006	SLJ, 49(12), 2003
Johnson, Angela. The First Part Last. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2010.	BFYA2004	SLJ, 51(2), 2005
Johnson, Maureen. The Bermudez Triangle. Razorbill, 2005.	PPBK2006	Not Found
Juby, Susan. Another Kind of Cowboy. Harper Teen, 2007.	BBYA2009	SLJ, 54(2), 2008
Jukes, Mavis. The Guy Book: An Owner's Manual (Maintenance, Safety, and Operating Instructions for Teens). Crown Books for Young Readers, 2002.	QP2003	SLJ, 48(3), 2002
Kannagi, Satoru and Odagiri, Hotaru. Only the Ring Finger Knows. Digital Manga, 2004.	PPBK2006	Not Found

Kazumi, Maki. Desire. Digital Manga Publishing, 2004.	PPBK2008	SLJ, 53(6), 2007
Kern, Peggy. The Test. Townsend Press, 2011.	QP2012	Not Found
Kerr, M.E. Night Kites. Harper Teen Publishing, 1987.	BBYA1986	SLJ, 32(9), 1986.
Knowles, Jo. Jumping Off Swings. Candlewick Press, 2009.	QP2010	SLJ, 55(8), 2009
Konigsberg, B. Out of the Pocket. Dutton Juvenile, 2008.	RBOW2009	SLJ, 54(9), 2008
Kulver, Cayla. Legacy. HarlequinTeen, 2011.	PPBK2012	Not Found
Lackey, Mercedes. Magic's Pawn : Last Herald Mage Trilogy Book 1. DAW Books, 1994.	PPBK2006	Not Found
Lee, Darrien. Denim Diaries Book 2: Grown in Sixty Seconds (series), 2009.	QP2010	Not Found
Levithan, David. Boy Meets Boy. Knopf, 2005.	PPBK2006	SLJ, 51(9) 2005
Lo, Malinda. Ash. Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, 2010.	RBOW2010	SLJ, 55(9), 2009
Lockhart, E. Fly on the Wall: How One Girl Saw Everything .Delacorte, 2007.	PPBK2008	SLJ, 52(10), 2007
Loukes, Keith. Ask Dr. Keith: Candid Answers to Queer Questions. Whitecap Books, 2004.	PPBK2006	Not Found
Mackler, Carolyn. Guyaholic: The Story of Finding, Flirting, Forgetting...and the Boy Who Changes Everything. Candlewick Press, 2007.	QP2008	SLJ, 54(1),2008
Mackler, Carolyn. The Earth, My Butt, and Other Big Round Things. Walker Books, 2006.	PPBK2010	SLJ, 51(11), 2005
McCaffrey, Kate. In Ecstasy. Annick Press, 2009.	QP2010	SLJ, 56(1), 2010
McDonald, Janet. Chill Wind. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2007.	STPTOE2003	SLJ, 48(11), 2002
McKayhan, Monica. Indigo Summer. Harlequin/ Kimani Tru, 2007.	QP2008	SLJ, 9(3), 2007
McKayhan, Monica. Step Up (An Indigo Novel). Kimani Press, 2010.	QP2011	BIBR, 9(3), 2007
Medina, Nico. The Straight Road to Kylie . Simon Pulse, 2007.	PPBK2008	SLJ, 53(7), 2007
Millner, Denene and Miller, Mitzi. Hotlanta (Series). Point, 2008.	QP2009	SLJ, 54(5), 2008
Moore, Terry. Strangers In Paradise: Pocket Book 1.Abstract Studios, 2005.	PPBK2006	BL, 101(14), 2005
Nelson, Blake. Recovery Road. Scholastic Press, 2011.	QP2012	SLJ, 57(5) 2011
Nelson, RA. Teach Me. Razorbill, 2007.	PPBK2012	Not Found
Pardes, Bronwen. Doing It Right: Making Smart, Safe and Satisfying Choices about Sex. Simon and Schuster/ Simon Pulse, 2007.	QP2008	SLJ, 53(6), 2007
Patrick, Ryan. Gemini Bites. Scholastic Press, 2011.	RBOW2012	SLJ, 57(5), 2011
Pennebaker, Ruth. Don't Think Twice. Henry Holt and Company, 2001.	BBYA1997	SLJ, 42(5), 1996
Perkins, Stephanie. Anna and the French Kiss, 2011.	PPBK2012	SLJ, 58(1), 2012
Peters, Julie Anne. Keeping You a Secret. Megan Tingley, 2005.	PPBK2006	SLJ, 49(5) 2003
Peters, Julie Anne. Luna. Little Brown, 2005.	PPBK2006	Not Found
Porter, Connie Rose. Imani All Mine. Mariner Books, 2000.	BFYA2000	SLJ, 46(1), 2000
Proimos, James. 12 Things to Do Before You Crash and Burn. Roaring Book Press, 2011.	QP2012	SLJ, 57(12) 2011
Revoyr, Nina. The Necessary Hunger: A Novel. St. Martin's Press, 1998.	PPBK2006	LJ, 120(20), 1996

Rucka, Greg. Gotham Central Vol 2: Half a Life. Illustrated by Michael Lark. 2 DC Comics, 2005.	PPBK2006	Not Found
Ruditis, Paul. Rainbow Party . Simon Pulse, 2005.	PPBK2008	SLJ, 51(7), 2005
Ryan, Sara. Empress of the World. Speak Publishing, 2003.	BBYA2002	SLJ, 47(7), 2001
Sanchez, Alex. Boyfriends with Girlfriends. Simon & Schuster, 2011.	QP2012	SLJ, 57(4), 2011
Sanchez, Alex. Getting it. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2007.	NYPL2007	SLJ, 52(11) 2006
Sanchez, Alex. Rainbow Boys. Simon Pulse, 2003.	PPBK2006	SLJ, 47(10), 2001
Sanchez, Alex. So Hard to Say. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2006.	NYPL 2005	SLJ, 50(11), 2004
Sanchez, Alex. The God Box. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2009.	NYPL2008	SLJ, 54(1), 2008
Schreiber, Mark. Star Crossed. Llewelyn/ Flux, 2007.	QP2008	SLJ, 53(6), 2007
Scott, Elizabeth. Bloom . Simon Pulse, 2007.	PPBK2008	SLJ, 53(6), 2007
Scott, Elizabeth. The Unwritten Rule. Simon & Schuster/Simon Pulse, 2010.	QP2011	SLJ, 56(4), 2010
Simon, Charnan. Plan B. 2011. Lerner Publishing Group/Darby Creek, 2011.	QP2012	SLJ, 57(4), 2011
Simone, Ni-Ni. If I Was Your Girl. Kensington/Dafina, 2008.	QP2010	KR, 76(18), 2005
Simone, Ni-Ni. Shortie Like Mine. Dafina, 2008.	PPBK2012	KR, 76(13), 2008
Simone, Ni-Ni. Teenage Love Affair. Kensington/Dafina, 2010.	QP2011	Not Found
Sones, Sonya. What My Girlfriend Doesn't Know. Simon & Schuster, 2007.	QP2008	SLJ, 53(6), 2007
Sparks, Chandra Taylor. The Pledge.(A Worth-the-Wait Novel #1).Kimani Press, 2009.	QP2010	Not Found
Strasnick, Lauren. Her and Me and You. Simon & Schuster/Simon Pulse, 2010.	QP2012	SLJ, 56(11), 2010
The Little Black Book for Girlz: A Book on Healthy Sexuality. Annick Press, 2006.	PPBK2008	Not Found
Wallington, Aury. Pop! Razorbill, 2006.	PPBK2008	SLJ, 53(1), 2007
Watase, Yuu. Absolute Boyfriend, Volume 1. VIZ, 2006.	PPBK2008	LJ, 53(6), 2006
Weyn, Suzanne. Beaten. 2011. Lerner Publishing Group/Darby Creek, 2011.	QP2012	Not Found
When I Knew. Ed. by Robert Trachtenberg. Illus. by Tom Bachtell. Regan, 2005.	PPBK2006	SLJ, 2006
Wild, Margaret. One Night. Knopf Books for Young Readers, 2004.	TAYSHAS2006	SLJ, 50(5), 2004
Williams, Lori Aurelia. Broken China. Simon Pulse Publishing, 2006.	QP2006	SLJ, 51(3), 2005
Winick, Judd. Green Lantern: Brother's Keeper. DC Comics, 2003.	PPBK2006	LJ, 128(18), 2003
Wittlinger, Ellen. Love & Lies: Marisol's Story. Simon and Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2009.	RBOW2009	SLJ, 54(8), 2008
Woodson, Jacqueline. The House You Pass on the Way. Puffin, 2003.	PPBK2006	SLJ, 43(10),1997

Codes:

BIBR: Black Issues Book Review

BL: Booklist

KR: Kirkus

LJ: Library Journal

BBYA: Best Books for Young Adults ALA YALSA

BFYA: Best Fiction for Young Adults ALA YALSA

NYPL: NYPL Books (or Stuff) for the Teen Age

PPBK: Popular Paperbacks for Young Adults ALA YALSA

QP: Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers ALA YALSA

RBOW= ALA Rainbow Booklist

STPTOE = Corretta Scott King John Steptoe New Talent

Other Lists of Interest:

Austin Public Library African American Teen Fiction:

<http://www.connectedyouth.org/books/index.cfm?booklist=afam>

Austin Public Library Teen Parents:

<http://www.connectedyouth.org/books/index.cfm?booklist=teenparents>

Austin Public Library GLBTQ:

<http://www.connectedyouth.org/books/index.cfm?booklist=glbtq>

ALA GLBT Round Table:

<http://glbtrt.ala.org/rainbowbooks/>

Hennepin County Library Sex 101:

http://www.hclib.org/pub/bookspace/BooklistAction.cfm?list_num=124